

Message Text

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SUBJECT: IVP GRANTEE LUIGI VERTEMATI BIOGRAPHIC DATA

REF ROME 3409, MILAN 0516

1. LUIGI VERTEMATI, PSI PROVINCIAL SECRETARY FOR MILAN, IS ONE OF SOCIALIST PARTY LEADERS IN NORTHERN ITALY WITH GREATEST POLITICAL POTENTIAL. HE WAS BORN 1938 IN BERNAREGGIO (MILAN) FROM A WORKING CLASS FAMILY OF SOCIALIST TRADITIONS. HE JOINED PSI YOUTH ORGANIZATION AS TEENAGER. AT 18 HE WAS MEMBER OF PSI MILAN PROVINCIAL YOUTH COMMITTEE, AND AT 22 BECAME MEMBER OF ITS SECRETARIAT. AT THAT TIME HE LEFT HIS BLUE-COLLAR JOB TO WORK FULL TIME FOR PARTY. IN FOLLOWING TWO YEARS HE LED RE-ORGANIZATION OF PSI IN AREAS OF MONZA AND VIMERCATE.

2. VERTEMATI WAS ELECTED IN OCTOBER 1963 TO SOCIALIST FEDERATION'S PROVINCIAL DIRECTIVE COMMITTEE BY 16TH PROVINCIAL CONGRESS ON NENNI-AUTONOMIST TICKET, AND IN MARCH 1964 BECAME PARTY'S PROVINCIAL YOUTH SECRETARY, A POSITION WHICH HE RESIGNED IN 1966, HAVING REACHED MAXIMUM AGE LIMIT. IN NOVEMBER 1964 ADMINISTRATIVE ELECTIONS, PARTY PRESENTED HIS CANDIDACY FOR MILAN PROVINCIAL COUNCIL IN COLLEGIO OF VIMERCATE AND FOR MUNICIPAL COUNCILS OF BERNAREGGIO AND TREZZO D'ADDA.

VERTEMATI WAS ELECTED TO PSI MILAN PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN OCTOBER 1968, THIS TIME ON DE MARTINO TICKET, AND PLACED IN CHARGE, FIRST, OF UNION AFFAIRS SECTION,
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LATER BECOMING OFFICER FOR ORGANIZATION OF MASSES. HE

BECAME ONE OF THE THREE PROVINCIAL VICE SECRETARIES IN JANUARY 1969.

AFTER SOCIALIST SCHISM OF JULY 1969, NECESSITY OF REORGANIZING PARTY IN PROVINCE OF MILAN FOR FORTHCOMING JUNE 6, 1970, ADMINISTRATIVE ELECTIONS LEFT VERTEMATI IN CHARGE OF UFFICIO ENTI LOCALI (LOCAL ADMINISTRATIONS) SUPERVISING ELECTION CAMPAIGN THROUGHOUT PROVINCE. IN HIS OWN HOME TOWN - RULED BY THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS SINCE 1951 - HE GAINED PRESTIGIOUS PERSONAL VICTORY BY BEING ELECTED MAYOR, AT HEAD OF SOCIAL-COMMUNIST COALITION. HE WAS ALSO CANDIDATE FOR LOMBARDY REGIONAL COUNCIL, BUT BECAME REGIONAL COUNCILLOR ONLY TWO YEARS LATER, REPLACING CARLO RIPA DI MEANA WHO RESIGNED TO RUN FOR DEPUTY (VERTEMATI HAD BEEN HIGHEST VOTEGETTER AMONG NON-WINNERS). WITH ADVENT OF REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS, PARTY CONSITUTED REGIONAL COMMITTEES AND IN JULY 1970 VERTEMATI WAS ELECTED LOMBARDY REGIONAL SECRETARY. HE RELINQUISHED THAT POSITION ON MARCH 11, 1973, WHEN PARTY HELD ITS FIRST REGIONAL CONGRESS.

VERTEMATI WAS ELECTED PSI MILAN PROVINCIAL SECRETARY ON DECEMBER 12, 1972, WITH SUPPORT OF AUTONOMISTS. HE CONTINUES TO HOLD THAT OFFICE. HE IS ALSO MEMBER OF PARTY'S CENTRAL COMMITTEE, STILL HOLDS POST OF MAYOR OF BERNAREGGIO, AND IS REGIONAL COUNCILLOR FOR LOMBARDY REGION, WHERE HE IS VICE PRESIDENT OF PERMANENT COMMISSION ON LOCAL ADMINISTRATIONS AND COMPENSORI AS WELL.

VERTEMATI IS STOCKY, OF MEDIUM HEIGHT, AND PRESENTS AIR OF FORTHRIGHT COMPETENCE. PART OF HIS LEFT THUMB IS MISSING. WHILE HE DRESSES NEATLY, HE AVOIDS THE PRECISE ELEGANCE COMMON TO MANY OTHER EXECUTIVES OF HIS AGE IN MILAN. HE SPEAKS CLEARLY, EASILY AND WITHOUT RHETORIC. HE IS A WELL-BALANCED INDIVIDUAL WITH WHOM RAPPORT IS EASILY ESTABLISHED. HE DOES NOT SPEAK ENGLISH. HE HAS VISITED BOTH CHINA AND EASTERN EUOPE. HE IS NOT PRO-COMMUNIST AND HE IS FAVORABLE TO WESTERN EUROPEAN UNIFICATION. HE IS MARRIED WITH ONE CHILD AND EXPECTS ANOTHER LATE THIS SUMMER.FINA
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